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To achieve the foregoing, and in accordance with the purpose of the present invention, a system or network is disclosed which provides for a dynamic symbolic link (DSL) and the resolution of that DSL. The invention provides a method and apparatus that renames a first pathname to a target pathname, determines a variable within the target pathname, defines the first pathname as a symbolic link and associates the symbolic link with a virtual pathname. The present invention further defines a specification associated with the virtual pathname including associating the variable with the virtual pathname. In associating the symbolic link with the virtual pathname, the present invention further define a declaration within the virtual pathname.